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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
Box RCE
Washington, DC 20231

Application Number	09/641,795
Filing Date	08/18/2000
First Named Inventor	James M. Zavislan
Art Unit	2877
Examiner Name	Hoa Q. Pham
Attorney Docket Number	ML-0459C

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR §1.114**a. ☐ Previously submitted**

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR §1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iv. ☐ Other _____

2. ☐ Suspension of action

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i) required)

b. ☒ Other Petition For Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a)

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR §1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1101

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(e)

ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR §§1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print / Type)

Kenneth J. LuKacher

Registration No. (Attorney / Agent)

38,539

Signature

Date

January 21, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark

Name (Print / Type)

Kenneth J. LuKacher

Signature

Date

January 21, 2003

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT EXAMINING OPERATION

Applicant: James M. Zavislan

Serial No.: 09/641,795

Filed: August 18, 2000

For: IMAGING SYSTEM USING POLARIZATION EFFECTS TO
ENHANCE IMAGE QUALITY

Examiner: Pham, H.

Art Unit: 2877

Atty Docket: ML-0459C

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of August 21, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, lines 8-19, with the following:

The light is returned and collected by the objective 30 and combined inside of the prism 42, and returned as general elliptically polarized beam. The light directed into sample 12 and the light returned from the sample substantially share the same objective 30 as illustrated in FIG. 2. The polarization state of the light returned from the spots C and D depends upon the optical activity and optical retardance, particularly the difference in the average refractive index across the spots C and D. Accordingly, the amount of light from the image plane, which is focused by the condenser 34 and passes through the confocal aperture as the optical signal which is detected by the detector 24 depends upon the amount of polarization rotation, or the differential interference which produces a phase rotation of the polarization vector. Since the polarizing beamsplitter is set to reflect the polarization orthogonal to the incident polarization 16, towards the detector with greatest efficiency, the intensity of illumination at the detector depends upon the rotation and polarization (in effect the degree of elliptical polarization) which is produced by the material in the sample in the image plane.

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